

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
TOWN HALL HEARING ROOM
3/4/13

ATTENDEES:

Bayer*		Jenkins*	White*	McKenna*
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Gibian*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara	Beck*	Jones*	Deshler*	
Franclemont*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman*	Turkall

* Indicates present

VISITORS: None

MINUTES of 2/25/13 approved as corrected. Unanimous

SCHEDULE REVIEW: Tosti went over the schedule of remaining hearings (see minutes of 3/4). He said the House Ways & Means budget is scheduled for 4/10. There will be no meeting on 4/1 & 4/5.

BUDGETS

BOS: GenGov SubCom (McKenna) recommended the budget as printed. He provided the cost of FY 13 special elections: \$35,025 each. The annual Accuvote maintenance fee is already in the budget. The cost of FY 14 special elections, if any, will be similar.

VOTED \$224,067 for salaries & expenses, \$83,915 for regular elections, \$3,500 for Town Report & \$55,000 for Auditing. Unanimous.

FIRE: PubSaf SubCom (Bayer) recommended the budget as printed. The large budget increase is caused by absorbing admin functions into this budget: Fire Chief, secretary, 2 mechanics. The defibrillator stipend increase is in the contract. Bayer will inquire why no increase in the offset. VOTED \$6,429,446 Unanimous. Concerning the FY13 budget, Bayer says a \$170k overrun is projected. The Chief believes the credit for retroactive salary increase payment was short changed. He expects to convince the Comptroller of this. Also there were 2 retirement buyouts at \$35k & \$32k. Overtime is \$60k over now but may be on budget in June.

ASSESSORS: Finance SubCom(Beck) Recommended the budget as printed. He confirmed the \$400k overlay surplus for budgeting in FY 14. The Assessors are planning to do annual revals in 1/9 increments to smooth out the discontinuity on the eyeball eval required every 9 years. VOTED \$273,461 Unanimous

POSTAGE Finance SubCom(Jenkins) recommended the budget as printed. They are now taking bulk mailings to Waltham & probably soon, to Boston. The budget does not show an increase for this task. VOTED \$170,510 Unanimous.

Regional Agreement Amendment Subcommittee (RAAS) Foskett, who is representing the FinCom on this committee, reported on the 1st mtg (Ref 1). The MA Association of Regional Schools has provided consultants for this task. They assume the school operating under the present agreement is not sustainable. Most agree but there is no agreement on a replacement. The consultants did not have an estimate if the cost to communities should the school "dissolve". Ref 1 includes a number of suggestions Foskett provided to the Superintendent.

PRELIMINARY FINCOM REPORT: Tosti walked the committee through this document (Ref 2).

ART 26 LOCAL OPTION TAXES: Since no new options are expected, VOTED No Action Unanimous

COMMITTEE: Next mtg 3/11. Tosti requests subcoms provide an email summary of any budget details he should have ready for Town Meeting.

Peter Howard 3/6/13 Revised 3/11/13

cc FinCom Members, Town Web Site

Ref 1 RAAS

Ref 2 Preliminary FinCom Report

[illegible]

VOTE SUMMARY-Budgets

#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Amount	Vote Unlisted votes were unanimous
1	FinCom	2/20	2/20	11,656	
2	Board of Selectmen	3/4	3/4	366,482	
3	Town Manager	2/20	2/20	471,642	
4	Personnel				
5	Information Technology				
6	Comptroller				
7	Treasurer				
8	Postage	3/4	3/4	170,510	
9	Assessors	3/4	3/4	273,461	
10	Legal	2/20	2/20	453,346	
11	Town Clerk	2/20	2/20	253,159	
12	Registrar of Voters	2/20	2/20	56,140	
13	Parking				
14	Planning	2/20	2/20	353,368	
15	Redevelopment Board Rental Buildings	2/20	2/20	10,800 253,069	
16	Zoning Board of Appeals			21,230	
17	Public Works				
17g	Street Lights				
18a	Community Safety Admin			0	
18b	Police	2/20	2/20	7,199,322	
18c	Fire	3/4	3/4	6,429,446	
18d	Support				
19	Inspections				
20	Education				
21	Library				
22a	Health & Human Services				
22b	Veterans				
22c	COA				
23	Retirement				
24	Insurance				
25	Reserve Fund				=
W&S EF	Rev Exp				
Rec EF	Rev Exp				
Rnk EF	Rev Exp				
COA EF	Rev Exp				
Youth EF	Rev Exp				

Regional Agreement Amendment Subcommittee (RAAS) C. Foskett Summary of Meeting February 25, 2013

Monday, March 04, 2013

10:18 AM

Bob McLaughlin, Warrant Comm. Belmont*; Carl Valente, TM Lexington; Carrie Flood, MM SC; Charlie Foskett, Fin Com Arlington*; Dan Matthews, BOS Needham*; Don Lowe, TA Bolton; Greg Howes, Concord*; Laura Morrisette, MM SC; Lisa Limonciello, Waltham SC; Tere Ramos, Wellesley SC*; Ed Bouquillon*; Steve Hemman

Cc: Alice DeLuca, MM SC; Bill Blake; David Tobin, MARS*; Elizabeth Rozan*; Ernie Houle; Ford Spalding, MM SC*; Jane Pagett, Lexington Resident; Julie Gagliardi, MARS; Kevin Mahoney; Mark Filippino, Reporter*; Maryann Williams, SKANSKA; Paul Gagliarducci, MARS*; Roy Belson, Medford Supt.*; Stephen Donovan, MARS*

*Indicates present, hard to say who was present and who subcommittee members are

1. Meeting not that well organized. Partially chaired by MARS, partially by Ed Bouquillon
2. No list of members, no name cards or name plates
3. Two or three presentations by MARS (Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools (MARS)) consulting in process. Their representatives seem to be retired school officials.
4. Their presentations started with the assumption that Minuteman was not sustainable, without any justification. I objected because there would have to be a common understanding by the RAAS on this if we were to have a useful recommendation.
5. There was some discussion about how good a school MM is.
6. MARS presented alternatives: a) Change agreement let some out get new in, b) Dissolve MM, c) Muddle forward as is and pay for capital over time with no MSBA aid, d) Start a charter school
7. Dan Matthews, Needham wanted to know the "Dissolution Cost". A lot of time was spent discussing this. Laura Morrisette expressed deep concern about this concept because of the RA.
8. Bob McLaughlin said that he thought Belmont would never support a school building project for more than the member population.
9. There was a great deal of discussion as to whether or not the RAAS work should be in parallel to or precede the Feasibility Study. Since the Feasibility Study is already underway, this is a moot question.
10. There was a brief discussion of what the next work product should be.

11. There was a discussion of the need for a chair and a secretary, but no action was taken.
12. The next meeting was set for March 11, but that conflicts with MM and AFC, so it was cancelled; next meeting is now March 25, but I can't be there.
13. I did send the following note to Ed Bouquillon with the following suggestion for the consultants:
 1. Establish a common ground for unsustainability - we all have to have a common understanding here.
 2. Your (Bouquillon) encapsulation of it all into the "enrollment" issue was great.
 3. As someone suggested at the meeting, they should be able to
 - a. choose 3 or 4 building cost \$\$, \$30 million, \$60 million, \$80 million and \$100 million, and figure out what the bond costs are for 30 years and what the MSBA contribution can be.
 - b. Then we should be able to produce a simple chart of operating, capital and total assessment costs per student for the four building costs.
 - c. This should tell us how many students we need at what price tag to be competitive
 - d. We can map this against current population in the member towns and potential populations in the towns we want to get in
 - e. We can compare this to Dan's (Matthews) dissolution cost amortized over X years and Laura's alternative cost to the Towns to solve their vocational education needs otherwise
 - f. We can also look at what the alternative cost is – no MSBA, current path, minimal cap upgrades split over ten years every two years a new project
 4. I suspect you have already done all this and know the answers

This should provide the basis for a compelling argument to let newcomers in and current members out provided they pay all their current bills and unpaid debt obligations. In a sense, with a changed agreement where everyone can bail out, we will all be on the same footing as the Superintendent from Medford, and be making a clear and positive choice to move forward with something because it is the right thing to do academically, societally and financially.

Draft 03/4/13

Town of Arlington Massachusetts

Report of the Finance Committee



**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Monday, April 22, 2013**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, April 24, 2013**

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

ALLAN TOSTI, *Chairman*

RICHARD C. FANNING, *Vice Chairman*
CHARLES T. FOSKETT, *Vice Chairman*

ALAN JONES, *Vice Chairman*
PETER B. HOWARD, *Secretary*

PRECINCT	TERM ENDS	PRECINCT	TERM ENDS
1 PAUL BAYER	2013	11 ROBERT JENKINS	2014
2 STEPHEN W. DECOURCEY	2013	12 KENNETH J. SIMMONS	2015
3 ALLAN TOSTI	2015	13 JOHN J. DEYST, JR.	2013
4 RYAN J. FERRARA	2014	14 ALAN JONES	2013
5 MARY MARGARET FRANCLEMONT	2014	15 RICHARD C. FANNING	2015
6 Vacant		16 CAROLYN WHITE	2013
7 JOSEPH M. CONNORS	2013	17 GRANT GIBIAN	2015
8 CHARLES T. FOSKETT	2013	18 MARY RONAN	2013
9 BRIAN BECK	2015	19 CHRISTINE DESHLER	2015
10 PETER B. HOWARD	2014	20 DEAN CARMAN	2014
		21 DAVID MCKENNA	2015

GLORIA TURKALL
Executive Secretary

The Finance Committee was established by vote of the Town over a century ago on March 7, 1895. Article 33 provided for the selection of a "committee of twenty-one", which would consider all articles in the warrant involving an appropriation of money and "make report thereof in print, with their estimates and recommendations for final action of the town....."

Arlington's Finance Committee, however, was not the first in the state. According to the Massachusetts Finance Committee Handbook, "The Finance Committee's beginning was the action of a group of citizens of Quincy in 1870 who created themselves a committee to restore financial order." In 1910, the legislature required finance committees for every town "whose valuation for the purposes of apportioning the state tax exceeds one million dollars." Chapter 39, Section 16, also provided that any other town may "by by-law provide for the election or the appointment and duties of appropriation, advisory or finance committees, who shall consider any or all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town...."

In Arlington, the duties and responsibilities of the Finance Committee are stated in the Town Manager Act, Sections 31-35, and in the Bylaws, Title I, Article 7. Finance Committee members must be registered voters of the town. They are appointed by a three-member committee composed of the Moderator, the chairman of the Finance Committee and the chairman of the Board of Trust Fund Commissioners.

Under Section 4 of Article 7 of Title I of the Bylaws, the Finance Committee "shall consider all articles contained in any warrant except articles on zoning...and those articles which do not require or request an appropriation of money...said committee shall make recommendations, and shall report in print, if possible at or prior to each town meeting, but the omission of said committee so to consider, recommend and/or report shall not affect the validity of any vote or other action at any town meeting. The committee shall also make such general suggestions, criticisms and recommendations, as it may deem expedient. Nothing contained in this section shall preclude the Committee from considering, if it sees fit, articles which do not require or request an appropriation of money."

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GLOSSARY

AVAILABLE FUNDS -- See Unencumbered Funds

CHERRY SHEET -- Cherry-colored form showing state and county charges and reimbursement to the Town as certified by the State Director of Accounts.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS -- Funds that account for all revenues and expenditures for services and allow surpluses to be used to reduce user fees for the services or to pay for capital improvements. Each fund has an independent budget. Losses are made up from the Town's general fund. Presently, Arlington has enterprise funds for Council on Aging Transportation, Recreation, Veterans' Memorial Rink, Water & Sewer and Youth Services.

FISCAL YEAR -- July 1 through June 30.

FREE CASH -- See Unencumbered Funds.

OVERLAY -- Funds set aside to cover abatements and exemptions. The amount is determined by the Board of Assessors.

OVERLAY RESERVE -- Unused accumulated amount of Overlay for previous years that is not required to be held in a specific Overlay account for a given year. Once released by the Board of Assessors, the funds may be used for any municipal purpose.

RESERVE FUND -- A fund established by the Annual Town Meeting. It is under control of the Finance Committee, which may authorize transfers for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures. The fund may be composed of an appropriation of not more than 5% of the tax levy for the preceding year.

STABILIZATION FUND -- A special account created to provide a reserve for municipal expenditures.

SURPLUS REVENUE -- The total amount of cash, accounts receivable, and other current assets that exceed liabilities and reserves.

UNENCUMBERED FUNDS -- The amount of surplus revenue, minus uncollected taxes of prior years. Unencumbered funds must be certified by the State Bureau of Accounts before they can be used. Also known as Free Cash or Available Funds.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A great deal has happened since the Town Meeting adjourned last May. The major event was the passage in June of the Proposition 2 _ override by the citizens of our Town. This allowed us to maintain and stabilize Town services, restore some of those services which had been cut in prior years and promise the voters that there would be no additional overrides for at least three fiscal years. This promise requires us to strictly limit our spending increases.

The second major event was the passage of legislation by the Massachusetts House and Senate and signed by the Governor, which allowed cities and towns to curtail the growth of employee and retiree health insurance by either joining the State Group Insurance Commission ("GIC") or enacting changes in our health insurance system that would produce similar savings. The Town Manager and Board of Selectmen moved very quickly and scheduled a meeting on the day the Governor signed the legislation to implement joining the GIC as soon as possible. Working productively with the Town unions, the Town was able to join the GIC on January 1st and thus begin the savings as soon as possible. The Town Manager, the Board of Selectmen and the employee unions deserve a great deal of credit for productive negotiations and rapid implementation that will save Town services and jobs far into the future.

The third event was an unexpected increase in the Town's local aid as recommended by the Governor and House Ways and Means Committee.

The combination of these three changes will allow the Town to have balanced budgets which protect services and the taxpayer for at least another five years into the future. See Appendix D for a breakdown of the projected revenue and expenditures of the Town. The taxpayers stepped to the plate when we needed them last June. It is now our responsibility to step to the plate for them by limiting Town spending and carefully monitoring our reserves so as to live within the limits of Proposition 2 _ as far into the future as possible. That will be the policy of the Finance Committee and we hope that will be your policy as well.

Under this policy, the Finance Committee, in cooperation with other Town officials, proceeded to move ahead with the fiscal year 2013 budget. Both the Town Manager and School Superintendent presented budgets within the limits as promised to the voters last June. Our initial revenue projections were based upon levels agreed to by various Town officials and the local aid as recommended by the Governor last January. The Finance Committee has been working since late January reviewing budgets and examining the revenue projections for next year. We waited until the House Ways and Means reported their recommendations on April 11th, fine tuned the numbers and went to print with the Finance Committee Report made available to you on the first night of this Town Meeting.

We have been trimming budgets where possible, dedicated to the Other Post Employment Benefits Fund (OPEB) the full amount we had utilized in past years and continued to increase the snow and ice budget to prevent future deficits. We are recommending the addition of funds to the Override Stabilization Fund for future years as promised to the voters and continuing to monitor revenues and expenditures to keep future budgets balanced.

In closing, we need to emphasize the importance of controlling appropriations in the fiscal year 2013 budget. In the summer of 2011, when we last issued Town bonds, the Town maintained its high AAA rating from Standard and Poor's, which rates the Town's bonds. We accomplished this because we have a long term revenue and expenditure plan, a capital plan with strong support from this body, a strong reserve position and continued funding of the retiree health insurance fund. We cannot use any more of the Town's reserves without jeopardizing the Town's future financial condition. The voters must know that the Town can control expenditures and maintain a balanced budget. We need to utilize conservative financial practices if we are to maintain our high credit rating, which lowers interest costs for future bonding and keeps faith with our promise to the voters.

As in past years, we ask for your support in keeping the budgets balanced. We have allocated revenues as prudently and fairly as possible. Proposed increases must be balanced by reductions elsewhere. As always, we are available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Tosti, Chair
Arlington Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends passages of the following votes:

(Unless otherwise indicated, the following recommendations were by unanimous votes: any exceptions are noted in parentheses following the text of the recommended vote. The Chairman votes only when the recommendation of the Finance Committee will be affected.)

ARTICLES 2-21 The Redevelopment Board and Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

ARTICLE 22 HOME RULE LEGISLATION/MUNICIPAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to authorize and request the Board of Selectmen to file Home Rule Legislation that would allow the creation of a consolidated department of municipal finance upon a positive vote of the electorate, or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

VOTED:

COMMENT:

ARTICLE 23 **Board of Selectmen will report on this article.**

ARTICLE 24

**ACCEPTANCE OF LEGISLATION/COMPENSATION
OF RETIREMENT BOARD MEMBERS**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011, Section 34, Subdivision 6, regarding the compensation of Retirement Board Members; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Contributory Retirement Board)

VOTED:

COMMENT:

ARTICLE 25 **The Board of Selectmen will report on this article.**

ARTICLE 26 ACCEPTANCE/LOCAL OPTION TAXES

To see if the Town will vote to accept any local option taxes or other revenue raising options, which are made available to cities and towns through enactments of the legislature, by state regulation or court action; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED: *That no action be taken under this article.*

COMMENT: Because there is no legislation enacted in this area that could be accepted at this time, the Finance Committee voted to recommend no action on this

ARTICLES 27-28 The Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

ARTICLE 29

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

To see if the Town will vote to fund any fiscal items in the event that any are contained in collective bargaining agreements between the Town and the following named collective bargaining units, and to fund for non-union, M Schedule, and elected officials' salaries or fringe benefits, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto:

- A. Local 680, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees;
- B. Service Employees International Union (formerly NAGE);
- C. Robbins Library Professional Association;
- D. Local 1297, International Association of Firefighters;
- E. Arlington Patrolmen's Association;
- F. Arlington Ranking Police Officers' Association;
- G. M Schedule and non-union employees; and
- H. Full-time elected officials

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

VOTED:

ARTICLE 30

POSITIONS RECLASSIFICATION

To see if the Town will vote to make additions, deletions and/or modifications to the Classification and Pay Plan, appropriate a sum of money to fund same if necessary, determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Human Resources)

VOTED:

ARTICLE 31

APPROPRIATION/TOWN BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to make appropriations to defray Town obligations, liabilities, outlay and expenses and especially for or relating to all or any of the boards, departments, purposes and matters hereinafter mentioned, and to provide for the disposal of motor vehicles and other personal property belonging to the Town, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto: Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Personnel, Comptroller, Information Technology, Town Treasurer and Collector of Taxes, Assessors, Legal and Workers' Compensation, Town Clerk, Registrars, Planning and Community Development, Redevelopment Board, Parking, Zoning Board of Appeals, Public Works, Cemeteries, Community Safety, School Department, Libraries, Human Services, Insurance, Non-Contributory Pensions, Contributory Pensions, Town Debt and Interest, Reserve Fund, and/or any other Town Departments, Boards, Commissions or Committees, Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund, Recreation Enterprise Fund, Council on Aging Transportation Enterprise Fund, Veterans' Memorial Rink Enterprise Fund, and Youth Services Enterprise Fund.

(Inserted by the Board of Selectmen and at the request of the Town Manager)

See B1 Below.

ARTICLE 32

**APPROPRIATION/CREATION OF SPECIAL
EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND**

To see whether the Town will vote to create a stabilization fund in accordance with Section 5B of Chapter 40 of the General Laws for the purpose of holding previously appropriated but unspent special-education funds for use to offset future special-education costs, to transfer previously appropriated but unspent special-education funds into said account; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Arlington School Committee)

VOTED:

COMMENT:

ARTICLE 33

CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to defray the expense of purchasing, leasing, or bonding of capital equipment, infrastructure, buildings or other projects of the Town or to acquire real property for municipal purposes; to appropriate a sum of money to fund previously incurred or future Town debt, to acquire land for said projects where necessary by purchase, eminent domain taking or otherwise, determine how the money shall be raised including the possibility of borrowing any or all of the same, or the transfer of funds from any previous appropriation, determine how such money shall be expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted by the Board of Selectmen and at the request of
the Town Manager and the Capital Planning Committee)

VOTED:

ARTICLE 34

**APPROPRIATION/MINUTEMAN REGIONAL
VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying the Town's apportioned share of the operating and maintenance costs, including capital costs, of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Minuteman Regional Vocational School District Committee)

VOTED:

*That the sum of \$3,336,935 and hereby is appropriated for the purpose
of paying the Town's apportioned share of the operating and
maintenance costs, including capital costs, of the Minuteman Regional
Vocational Technical High School District Budget; said sum to be*

raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Minuteman Regional Vocational High School Committee.)

ARTICLE 35

APPROPRIATION/FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF SEWERS AND SEWERAGE FACILITIES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of sewers and sewerage facilities for inflow/infiltration reduction or system rehabilitation, including costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine how the appropriation shall be raised or expended, including the possibility of borrowing all or some of same; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works)

VOTED:

That the sum of \$1,200,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of sewers and sewerage facilities, inflow/infiltration reduction or system rehabilitation, including costs incidental and related thereto; that to raise this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$1,200,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7, of the General Laws, as amended, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and that the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager be and hereby are authorized to enter into any agreements they determine to be necessary in connection with the project and its financing and are further authorized to accept and expend in addition to the foregoing appropriation any grants that may become available from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority or other sources.

COMMENT:

This authorization allows the Town to receive an interest free loan from the MWRA in support of capital construction projects.

ARTICLE 36

APPROPRIATION/FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF WATER MAINS AND WATER FACILITIES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of water mains and water facilities, including costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine how the appropriation shall be raised and expended including the possibility of borrowing all or some of same; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works)

VOTED:

That the sum of \$650,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of water mains and water facilities, including costs incidental and related thereto; that to

COMMENT: *This authorization allows the Town to receive an interest free loan from the MWRA in support of capital construction projects.*

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money to be expended under the direction of various committees, commissions, and boards of the Town, determine how the money shall be raised; provided that any funds appropriated hereunder shall remain under the jurisdiction of said entities until expended at their direction, unless otherwise appropriated by the Town Meeting; the entities included hereunder, without limitation, are: Arlington Historical Commission, Arlington Recycling Committee, Avon Place Historic District Commission, Broadway Historic District Commission, Central Street Historic District Commission, Mt. Gilboa/Crescent Hill Historic District Commission, Jason/Gray Historic District Commission, Pleasant Street Historic District Commission, Russell Historic District Commission, Conservation Commission, Capital Planning Committee, Commission on Disability, Personnel Board, Public Memorial Committee, Human Rights Commission, Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development and any other Town Committee or commission; or take any action related thereto.

VOTED: *That the sum of \$16,535 be and hereby is appropriated to be expended by the following commissions, committees, and boards in the amounts indicated:*

- A. Arlington Historical Commission – \$2,160***
B. Historic District Commissions – \$5,100
(Avon Place Historic District Commission, Broadway Historic District Commission, Central Street Historic District commission, Jason/Gray Historic District Commission, Russell Historic District Commission, Pleasant Street Historic District Commission and Mount Gilboa/Crescent Hill Historic District Commission)
C. Capital Planning Committee – \$0
D. Commission on Disability – \$3,000
E. Recycling Committee – \$3,000
F. Human Rights Commission – \$4,500
G. Arlington Tourism and Economic Development Committee - \$2,225

Said sums to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the various commissions, committees and boards.

ARTICLE 38

APPROPRIATION/TOWN CELEBRATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager for the following celebrations and memorials, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto:

Veterans' Day Parade

Memorial Day Observation and the Patriots' Day Celebration

Display of American Flags on Massachusetts Avenue

Placing of American Flags on the Graves of Veterans

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

VOTED: **The sum of \$10,167 be and hereby is appropriated for the following celebrations and memorials in the amounts indicated:**

A. Veterans' Day Parade, Memorial Day Observation and the Patriots' Day Celebration. - \$5,667

B. 2013 Town Day Celebration - \$0

C. Display of American Flags on Massachusetts Avenue - \$0

D. Placing of American Flags on the Graves of Veterans - \$4,500

Said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

ARTICLE 39

APPROPRIATION/MISCELLANEOUS

To see if the Town will vote the following:

Legal Defense – To appropriate a sum of money to replenish the Legal Defense Fund established under Article 13, Section 5 of Title 1 of the Town Bylaws, Out-Of-State Travel – To appropriate a sum of money for expenses incurred outside the Commonwealth and as described in the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5, Paragraph 34, said appropriation to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager, Indemnification of Medical Costs, to appropriate a sum of money in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 100B of the General Laws, to indemnify certain retired Police Officers and Firefighters for all reasonable medical and surgical expenses which they incurred, determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

VOTED: **The sum of \$11,071 be and hereby is appropriated for the following purposes:**

A. Legal Defense - To appropriate a sum of money to replenish the Legal Defense Fund established under Article 13 of Title I of the Town By-Laws - \$0

B. Out-Of-State Travel - To appropriate a sum of money for

expenses incurred outside the Commonwealth and as described in the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5, Paragraph 34, said appropriation to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager - \$0

C. Indemnification of Medical Costs – \$11,071

(To indemnify certain retired Police Officers and Firefighters for all reasonable medical and surgical expenses which they incurred during the previous calendar year that are the proximate result of the disability for which they were retired; and to defray the expenses of the Medical Panel required by law; provided, incurred expenses shall be considered for indemnification thereunder except only those such as are excess over covered benefits of any plan of Hospital, Surgical or other coverage which the retiree has or had available to him, either directly or through a member of his immediate family, which benefits shall be considered primary, and which must be disclosed by such plan, or by the physician, hospital or other medical personnel or facility with or without the consent of the retiree.)

Said sums to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

ARTICLE 40

APPROPRIATION/WATER BODIES FUND

To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money to the Town's Water Bodies Fund for the maintenance, treatment and oversight of all the Town's water bodies, said sum (\$50,000) to be raised by the general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager who will also report to Town Meeting on the status of the fund; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Vision 2020 Standing Committee, its Environment Task Group's Committees (Spy Pond, Reservoir, and Sustainable Arlington) and the Conservation Commission)

VOTED: That the sum of \$50,000 be and hereby is appropriated to the Water Bodies Fund for the purpose of testing, maintaining, treating and oversight of the Town's water bodies. Said sum to be raised by the general taxes and expended under the direction of the Town Manager. The Town Manager shall report to the next Annual Town Meeting on the status of the water bodies of the Town.

COMMENT: The Water Bodies Fund, established by special legislation four years ago, is used for periodic testing, treatment, maintenance and oversight of the town's water bodies. The fund receives private as well as public donations. The current need is for treatment to reduce growth of invasive weeds at Spy Pond, the Arlington Reservoir, and Hills Pond.

ARTICLE 41

APPROPRIATION and EMINENT DOMAIN/ROUTE 60-MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE INTERSECTION MOBILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT EASEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to act by and through the Board of Selectmen to take by eminent domain, purchase, or otherwise permanent and/or temporary easements in the area of the Route 60-Massachusetts Avenue intersection for the purpose of implementing redesign of the intersection, to appropriate a sum or sums of money for such acquisitions, determine how the money will be raised and expended, including the possibility of borrowing any or all of it; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works)

VOTED:

COMMENT:

ARTICLE 42

APPROPRIATION/ELECTRONIC TOWN MEETING VOTING EQUIPMENT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purchase or lease of electronic voting equipment for use at Town Meeting, determine how said sum will be raised and expended, or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Meeting Electronic Voting Study Committee)

VOTED: **That the sum of \$10,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the lease of electronic voting equipment for use at Town Meeting; said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the director of the Town Manager.**

COMMENT: This will allow the Town Meeting to use the equipment for the 2014 Town Meeting to see if it meets their needs and expectations. If the Town Meeting decides to continue, the Capital Budget Committee will make recommendations on the continued leasing or purchase of the equipment. If the Town Meeting votes not to implement this plan under Article 12, the recommendation of the Finance Committee will be for No Action on this article.

ARTICLE 43

APPROPRIATION/HARRY BARBER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$7500.00 for the Harry Barber Community Service Program for the Council on Aging, to determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Council on Aging)

VOTED: **That the sum of \$7,500 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of conducting the Harry Barber Community Service Program; said**

COMMENT: This program provides the opportunity for senior citizens to provide service in various Town departments in exchange for payment, which they can use to help with taxes and rent.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$20,000. to fund the manufacture and then installation of the first phase of the historic signs, determine how the funds will be raised and expended; or take any other action related thereto.

VOTED: That the sum of \$20,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the acquisition and placement of promotional, informational and/or directional signage relative to four historic Town sites: the Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum, the Jason Russell House, the Uncle Sam Memorial Statue, and the Old Schwamb Mill. Said sum to be raised by the general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

ARTICLE 45 APPROPRIATION/UNCLE SAM COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$2,000. for expenses related to design and construction of a traditional metal historic plaque, design and printing of a tourist brochure, the re-stocking supplies for Patriot's Day and Town Day, determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action relating thereto.

VOTED: That the sum of \$2,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of the design and construction of a traditional metal historic plaque for the Uncle Sam Park and the printing of a tourist brochure and other supplies; said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the director of the Town Manager. (12-1)

COMMENT: Currently, it is very difficult for a visitor to determine what the statute is all about, because the writing on the base of the statute is almost impossible to read. This sign will identify Uncle Sam and add some brief comments on his importance.

ARTICLE 46

APPROPRIATION/PENSION ADJUSTMENT FOR FORMER TWENTY-FIVE YEAR/ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY EMPLOYEES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to implement the provisions of Chapter 32 of Massachusetts General Laws Section 90A, 90C, 90D and 90E, pursuant to which the Town pays up to fifty percent of the maximum salary as set forth in the Compensation and Pay Plan for the position formerly held by retired employees with twenty-five or more years of service to the Town and those employees who retired under an Accidental Disability; provided, however, that no one who retires after May 1, 2010 shall be eligible under this vote unless they qualify for at least a fifty percent pension, without this vote upon their retirement; this adjustment to be paid to those who qualify and administered in accordance with prior practice and understanding relating to the retirement allowance of said retirees; determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Contributory Retirement Board)

VOTED:

That the sum of \$0 be and hereby is appropriated to implement the provisions of Chapter 32 of Massachusetts General Laws Section 90A, 90C, 90D and 90E, pursuant to which the Town pays up to fifty percent of the maximum salary as set forth in the Compensation and Pay Plan for the position formerly held by retired employees with twenty-five or more years of service to the Town and those employees who retired under an Accidental Disability; provided, however, that no one who retires after May 1, 2010 shall be eligible under this vote unless they qualify for at least a fifty percent pension, without this vote, upon their retirement. This adjustment to be paid to those who qualify, and administered in accordance with prior practice and understanding relating to the retirement allowance of said retirees; said sum to be expended under the direction of the Retirement Board. (15-0-1)

COMMENT:

This vote, which is required annually, allows the Retirement Board to ensure that retired employees will not drop below 50% of the current salary of the position they held as an active Town employee. The vote has been modified from the wording used in past years to close a loophole that allowed employees to increase their pension above what they would otherwise qualify for.

ARTICLE 47

APPROPRIATION/OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to accept into the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund, established by Chapter 161 of the Acts of 2005, an appropriation of funds and/or the transfer of additional monies that the Town may deem advisable from other sources, including any monies previously deposited into any of the Town's stabilization funds for this purpose, in order to administer and fund its OPEB obligation as described in the said Chapter 161 of the Acts of 2005; determine how the monies shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Contributory Retirement Board)

VOTED: *That the Town takes the following actions:*

- (a) *appropriates into said Other Post-Employment Benefits Fund (OPEB), authorized by Chapter 161 of the Acts of 2005, the sum of \$392,877 representing that amount of money that is the difference between the previously established base amount of \$500,000 and the fiscal 2013 appropriation for the non-contributory pension obligation; said sum to be raised by the general tax;*
- (b) *appropriates into said fund the sum of \$155,000 representing the increased share of retiree HMO contributions as voted by the Board of Selectmen on November 6, 2006; said sum to be raised by the general tax.*
- (c) *appropriates into said fund the sum of \$300,000 representing an amount equal to the health benefit trust fund offset which is applied to the employee health insurance budget; said sum to be raised by the general tax.*

COMMENT: *This recommendation continues the program to fund the unfunded liability for retiree health insurance.*

ARTICLE 48

APPROPRIATION/FISCAL STABILITY STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will make an appropriation to or from the Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund created under Article 65 of the 2005 Annual Town Meeting or any other enabling action of Town Meeting in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, as amended, or other appropriate provisions of law, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED: *That the sum of \$ be appropriated to the Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of future town meetings.*

COMMENT: *These funds will be added to the Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund created in response to the 2011 Override. Its funds will be used in future fiscal years to fund the Town budgets in order to foreclose the need for additional overrides in at least the years fiscal 2012 through and including fiscal 2014.*

To see if the Town will make an appropriation to or from the Long Term Stabilization Fund in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, as amended, or other appropriate provisions of law, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

VOTED: That the sum of \$100,000 be and hereby is appropriated to the Long Term Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised by general tax.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from previous years overlay reserve surplus accounts, determine to what purpose this appropriation shall be made; or take any action related thereto.

To see if the Town will vote to make an appropriation/transfer from the Tip Fee Stabilization Fund established by Chapter 8 of the Acts of 1998 for any purpose allowed by such act, to determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

VOTED: That the sum of \$164,000 be and hereby is appropriated and transferred from the Arlington Tip Fee Stabilization Fund established under Chapter 8 of the Acts of 1998 to the Sanitation Budget 16d Rubbish Disposal/Recycling, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager,

and the Treasurer is authorized to transfer any remaining balances in this fund after the transfer authorized above to the long-term stabilization fund.

ARTICLE 52

TRANSFER OF FUNDS/CEMETERY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money to the Cemetery Commissioners for the improvement of Town cemeteries, said sum shall be taken from the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery "Sale of Lots and Graves or Perpetual Care Funds"; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED:

That the Town transfer \$150,000 to the Cemetery Commissioners for the care of Town cemeteries, said sum shall be taken from the "Sale of Lots and Graves Fund."

ARTICLE 53

USE OF FREE CASH

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the taking of a sum of money voted for appropriations heretofore made at the Town Meeting under the Warrant and not voted to be borrowed from available funds in the Treasury, and authorize the Assessors to use free cash in the Treasury to, that amount in the determination of the tax rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED:

That the sum of \$3,411,528 be taken from available funds in the treasury, and that the Board of Assessors is instructed to use said amount in the determination of the tax rate.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, April 24, 2013

The Finance Committee recommends passages of the following votes:

(Unless otherwise indicated, the following recommendations were by unanimous votes: any exceptions are noted in parentheses following the text of the recommended vote. The Chairman votes only when the recommendation of the Finance Committee will be affected.)

ARTICLES 1-2 The Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

ARTICLE 3

**APPROPRIATION/TEMPORARY VISITOR
CENTER AT UNCLE SAM PLAZA**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000. to fund a temporary Visitor's Center for the Town to be located at Uncle Sam Plaza, determine how the money will be raised and expended; take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Arlington Economic Development and
Tourism Committee)

VOTED: *That the sum of \$25,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of building a Visitor Center for the Town at the Uncle Sam Plaza; said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the director of the Town Manager.*

COMMENT:

ARTICLE 4 The Board of Selectmen will report on this article.